

We have taken an apartment at
Paris for a month or six weeks from
the 1st of next month - we shall
then spend a couple of months more
visiting in the country and in the
beginning of October hope to settle in
Victoria Street and I shall then
resume regular work at Kew

We have had much discussion in
the Linnean Society - it has ended in
a determination on their part to publish
beside the transactions a quarterly
pro journal in which Botany & Zoology
will be separable - to be sold to the
public & given to members - and we
hope to keep the Society up to the mark

Your box containing what I
mentioned in my last and the first
batch of Hooker & Thomson's Indian plants
was sent off to the care of Brown
Shipley of Liverpool last week

With kindest regards to Mr Gray
Ever yours most sincerely
George Bentham

London May 16/55

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My dear Gray

I thought you knew me
better than to imagine that I
could take offence at nothing
when all the fault between us
is on my side - I would beg you
to remember that I never can
see any one in taking offence
^{even} where there is any apparent ground
and I believe I am not apt to do so
and as to your visit to England I
feel as much obliged to you for the
pleasure and gratification we
received from the time you and
Mr Gray kindly bestowed upon us
as for the numerous contributions
to my herbarium & library I have

received from you - You surely I
expected you to make some mention
of me in your book - In the first
place I know very well your preface
is not come out yet - and in the
next place I am not one of those
who care in the least for any
prefatory compliments - It was
a great pleasure to me to work
with you and I got many valuable
specimens by it and if I named
a few plants for you you named
at least as many for me - so that
if you make a public acknowledgement
of what you are pleased to call my
assistance you will only put me into
the disagreeable dilemma of not
knowing how to acknowledge publicly
the assistance you have rendered

me - so that I hope you will think
no more of anything of the sort

I wrote about ten days ago
with very lame excuses about
my long silence - but if you
knew what it has been to me
to break up our home in the
country & part with the collections
which have absorbed the last 25
years of my life you would easily
conceive how difficult it is to
resume my correspondence etc.
at least till we get regularly settled
I do not regret what I have done
because the main object of the
change - the restoration of Mr
Bentham's health - has been effected
- but I cannot deny that it has
been at some personal sacrifice.